GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:842
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2005
DEVELOPMENT OF KAVERI ENGINES
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in spite of spending a huge amount on the Kaveri engine project, the engine is not yet ready for high altitude flight tests;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether DRDO is now actively considering for global technical partner for the development of Kaveri engine;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time schedule chalked out for the development of Kaveri engine?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) & (b): Kaveri and Kabini (core engine) have been tested in simultated High Altitude Testing Facility in Russia in three spells from August 1998, as on date. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is also planning to send Kaveri (K-9) engine for Flying Test Bed trials in December 2005/January 2006.

(c) & (d): The DRDO has reviewed and assessed that significant risk reduction may accrue through a partnership in engine development and production, to meet "production release" goals of Kaveri for LCA by 2009. Expressions of Interest have been sought from all reputed military engine manufacturers to assess the level of interest in such a proposal.

(e) Kaveri is planned to be integrated with LCA by March 2007 and production release by 2009.